(ii) Adoption of the "Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 1993" by all the States where manual scavenging exists.

(iii) Low Cost Sanitation Programme—conversion of Dry Latrines.

(iv) Involvement of Non-governmental Organisations.

(b) and (c) The Employment of Manual Scavenger and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 1993 provides for the prohibition of employment of manual scavengers as well as construction or continuance of dry latrines. Article 16 of the Act provides 'Notwithstanding anything contained in the Code of criminal Procedure, 1973, every offence under this Act shall be cognizable'.

In the State of Uttar Pradesh, 5583 persons were prosecuted/being prosecuted for contravention of the provisions of the Act.

BPL population in urban areas

1569. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Below Poverty Line persons in the urban areas of the country and their percentage of the total population of urban areas, all India as well as State-wise;

(b) whether Government propose to initiate any new schemes to improve the living conditions of the Below-Poverty-Line people in urban areas and to create employment opportunities for them;

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when these are likely to be implemented; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The number and percentage of Below Poverty Line population in Urban areas, as estimated by the Planning Commission in 1999-2000, all India as well as State-wise, is given in the statement (*See* below).

(b) to (d) Ministry of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation is

already implementing an employment oriented Urban Poverty Alleviation Centrally sponsored Scheme named Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), on all India basis, with effect from 1.12.1997. The Scheme strives to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed and underemployed poor through, firstly, encouraging the setting up of self-employment ventures by those who have not studied beyond 9th standard and, secondly, by providing wage employment by utilizing their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets. The scheme is funded in the ratio of 75:25 between the Centre and States.

Statement

Number and Percentage of Population below the Poverty Line in States—1999-2000 (30-day recall period)

(in decreasing order of percentage of population)

Sl. No.	States	No. of persons (in lakhs)	Percentage of persons (%)
1.	Orissa	25.40	42.83
2.	Madhya Pradesh	81.22	38.44
3.	Bihar	49.13	32.91
4.	Uttar Pradesh	117.88	30.89
5.	Maharashtra	102.87	26.81
6.	Andhra Pradesh	60.88	26.63
7.	Karnataka	44.49	25.25
8.	Tamil Nadu	49.97	22.11
9.	Kerala	20.07	20.27
10.	Rajasthan	26.78	19.85
11.	Gujarat	28.09	15.59
12.	West Bengal	33.38	14.86
13.	Haryana	5.39	9.99
14.	Goa	0.59	7.52

Sl. No.	States	No. of persons (in lakhs)	Percentage of persons (%)
15.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.18	7.47
16.	Assam	2.38	7.47
17.	Manipur	0.66	7.47
18.	Meghalaya	0.34	7.47
19.	Mizoram	0.45	7.47
20.	Nagaland	0.28	7.47
21.	Sikkim	0.04	7.47
22.	Tripura	0.49	7.47
23.	Punjab	4.29	5.75
24.	Himachal Pradesh	0.29	4.63
25.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.49	1.98
UNION TERRITORIES			
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.24	22.11
2.	Pondicherry	1.77	22.11
3.	Lakshadweep	0.08	20.27
4.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.03	13.52
5.	Delhi	11.42	9.42
6.	Daman & Diu	0.05	7.52
7.	Chandigarh	0.45	5.75
	All India	670.07	23.62

Manual Scavenging

†1570. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that faeces are still carried manually in various parts of the country;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.